

An unusual occurrence of *Eucalyptus leptophylla* and *Eucalyptus sargentii* at Beermullah, north west of Gingin.—After reading the article, A Record of the Slender-leaved White Mallee, *Eucalyptus foccunda*, in Reabold Park, Perth, by I. Lantzke and P. McMillan, in the *W.A. Naturalist*, 14 (3). I thought it may be of interest to record that in 1959, I sent specimens of two different mallees growing naturally on this farm to the Department of Agriculture for identification. In a letter dated May 26, 1959, Mr. R. D. Royce identified them as *Eucalyptus leptophylla* and the Salt River Gum, *Eucalyptus sargentii*. I raised seedlings in 1960 and have a fully grown specimen of each in the garden.

Eucalyptus leptophylla still grows on a small limestone ridge on the roadside bordering the farm. *Eucalyptus sargentii* grows in a low, flat, wet area of grey clay over shallow limestone. This farm is on the western part of the Beermullah plain c.24 km north west of Gingin and 26 km from the coast. The closest Tuarts, *Eucalyptus gomphocephala*, grow 11 km to the west.

On the eastern side of the Beermullah area are some Jam trees, *Acacia acuminata* and York gums, *Eucalyptus toxophleba*. While near Gingin on higher ground, a few specimens of the Weeping Pittosporum *Pittosporum phylliracoides* and Manna wattle, *Acacia microbotrya*, still exist.

As these trees seem to be out of their usual range, it would appear that these also are relics surviving from when the climate was different from that at present.

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The Western Subspecies of the Cape Barren Goose *Cereopsis novaehollandiae grisea* (Vieillot)—On 22 October 1979 the writer and other members of the Western Australian Wildlife Authority Bird Committee visited the Agriculture Department's Poultry Research Station at Wembley. There, Messrs. R. H. Morris, A. V. Swain and A. B. Morrison showed us three stocks of Cape Barren Geese, including adjoining pens of 7 birds from Tasmania, 11 from South Australia and 9 from the Archipelago of the Recherche. The Western Australian birds were readily distinguished on coloration from eastern birds (in this respect Tasmanian and South Australian birds were inseparable).

The white of the crown in the western birds extended down to the top of the eye. In eastern birds it was narrower and more sharply delimited from the grey of the side of head. In western birds the pink of the legs was duller and less extensive, the greyish black of the feet extending up the front edge of the "tarsus" to the "knee". In eastern birds the leg was bright reddish pink, and the greyish black of the front edge of the "tarsus" extended only half way up to the "knee".

The back and wings of eastern birds averaged greyer and less brownish than those of western birds. The eastern birds appeared also to be slenderer. According to our hosts, the Western Australian birds were heaviest, the South Australian lightest.

The two Western Australian males in the Western Australian Museum (A16241-2) have wing lengths of 476 and 445 mm respectively. According to Mathews the holotype of *C. n. georgi* had a wing length of 491 mm. Thus the range in wing length of three western males is almost exactly the same as that given by Frith (*Waterfowl in Australia*, 1967, p. 127) for 14 adult males from Tasmania, viz. 450-490 mm.

The oldest name for the western subspecies is *Anser griseus* Vieillot (*Nouveau Dictionnaire d'Histoire Naturelle*, 1818, 23: 336), based on a specimen in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, collected by Labillardière. Vieillot said that Labillardière's specimen came from the "Terre de Diémen", but as Mathews suggested (*Bds Aust.* 4, 1914, 47), it must have come from Western Australia. There is no evidence that Labillardière